MARVEL
7
V · ANTÔNIO · ARCINIEGA
CARNAGE
30 YEARS

MARVEL REMEMBERS

ART BY PHIL NOTO

Mike Pasciullo | 1972 - 2022

With heavy hearts, Marvel remembers our dear friend and colleague Mike Pasciullo, who passed away earlier this year.

Growing up, Mike found a passion for collectibles and trading cards. After diving into comics and becoming a Marvel expert, he went on to work for Fleer, where he became an important collaborator on art development and creative direction for Marvel's trading card sets, including now-classic sets like DC vs. Marvel, Amalgam, and many more.

Through his 25-plus years at Marvel, Mike went on to lead the company's marketing strategy across publishing, films, television, and more. His work included landmark campaigns for seminal Marvel comic book moments like *Secret Invasion*, Marvel NOW!, *Civil War*, and many others, and key contributions in establishing the vision behind Marvel Studios' early promotional strategy, engaging fans with unforgettable live events and promotions at conventions and beyond. After marketing multiple MCU films, he brought that fan experience to Marvel Television's projects, including *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, *Marvel's Daredevil*, *Marvel's Luke Cage*, *Marvel's The Punisher*, *Marvel's Iron Fist*, *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, and *Marvel's The Defenders*, and Marvel's animation projects for Spider-Man, Guardians of the Galaxy, Avengers, and more.

Building on his knowledge of sports, Mike also helped weave together Marvel's fandom with sports fans through Marvel-themed game days, Marvel giveaways at sports events, and other Marvel activations across the country with Major League and Minor League sports teams that continue to this day.

Mike was beloved at Marvel, and he will be remembered for his kindness, creativity, optimism, and humor. His memory will always be with us, and he will live on forever within the Marvel family and beyond. ■

YEARS AGO, THE **VENOM SYMBIOTE** SPAWNED, AND ITS OFFSPRING BONDED TO SERIAL KILLER **CLETUS KASADY**. IMBUED WITH INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, SPEED, ENDURANCE AND POWERS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**, KASADY AND HIS EXTRATERRESTRIAL "OTHER" SHARE A UNIQUE BOND AND HAVE LONG TERRORIZED THE MARVEL UNIVERSE AS...

CARNAGE

CARNAGE IS LOOSE. REJECTED BY ITS FORMER HOST **CLETUS KASADY**, THE CARNAGE SYMBIOTE IS ON ITS OWN, BUT IT HAS FOUND A DISCIPLE IN SERIAL KILLER **KENNETH NEELY**.

AND THE MURDEROUS SYMBIOTE IS EVOLVING. AFTER ATTACKING AND STEALING THE POWERS OF SUPER-POWERED INDIVIDUALS AND POSSESSING A HELHOUND, CARNAGE TRAVELED TO NIFFLEHEIM TO HUNT DOWN HIS NEXT VICTIM, **MALEKITH**.

BUT DETECTIVE **JONATHAN SHAYDE**, WHO HAS BEEN AIDED BY THE VOICE OF CLETUS KASADY IN HIS HEAD FOLLOWING AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE SYMBIOTE, REACHED THE DARK ELF FIRST. DESPITE CLETUS' URGING TO KILL MALEKITH AND END CARNAGE'S HUNT ONCE AND FOR ALL, JON SPARED HIM. NOW, BEFORE CARNAGE AND NEELY'S ARRIVAL, THE THREE MUST DO THE UNIMAGINABLE: ESCAPE HEL.

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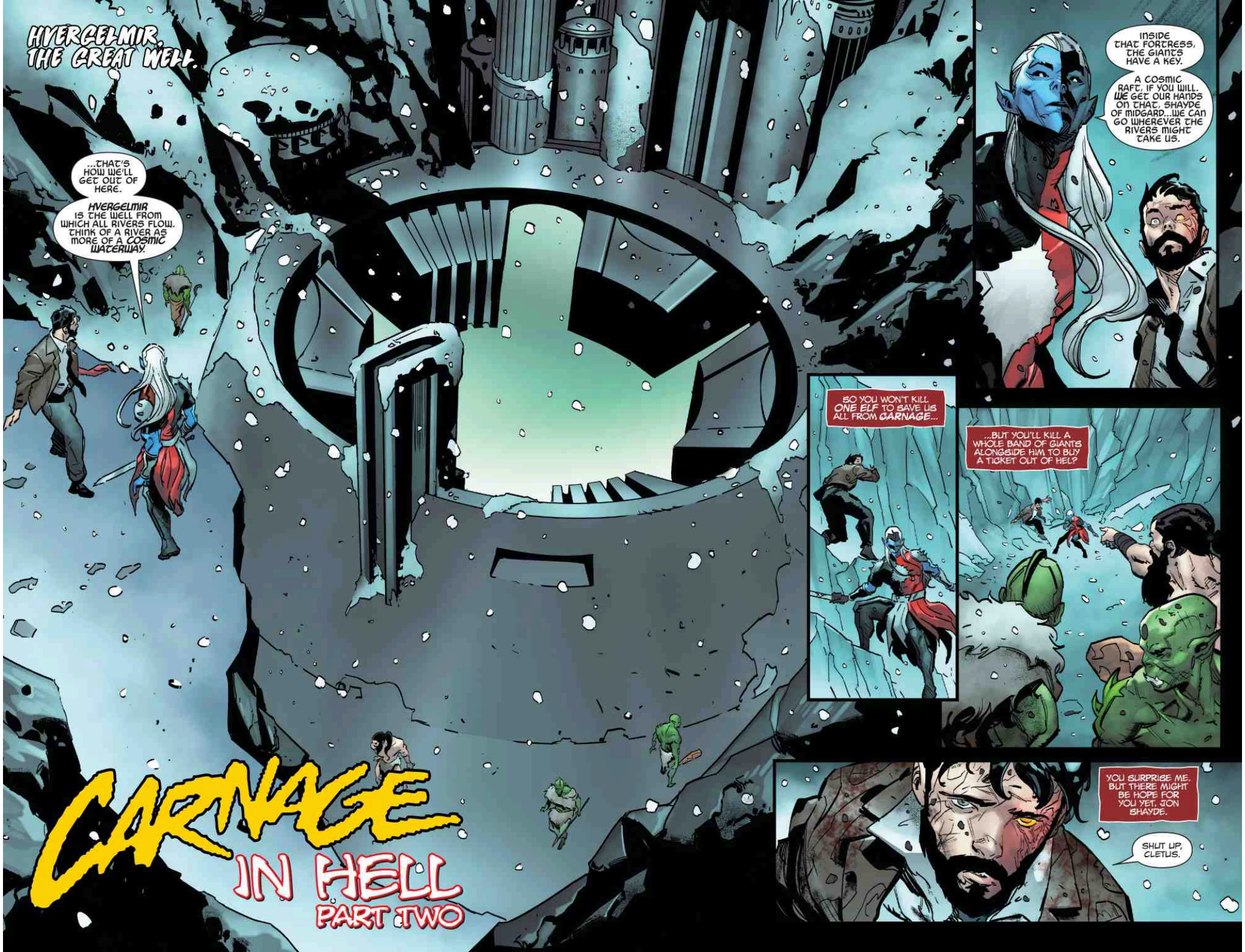
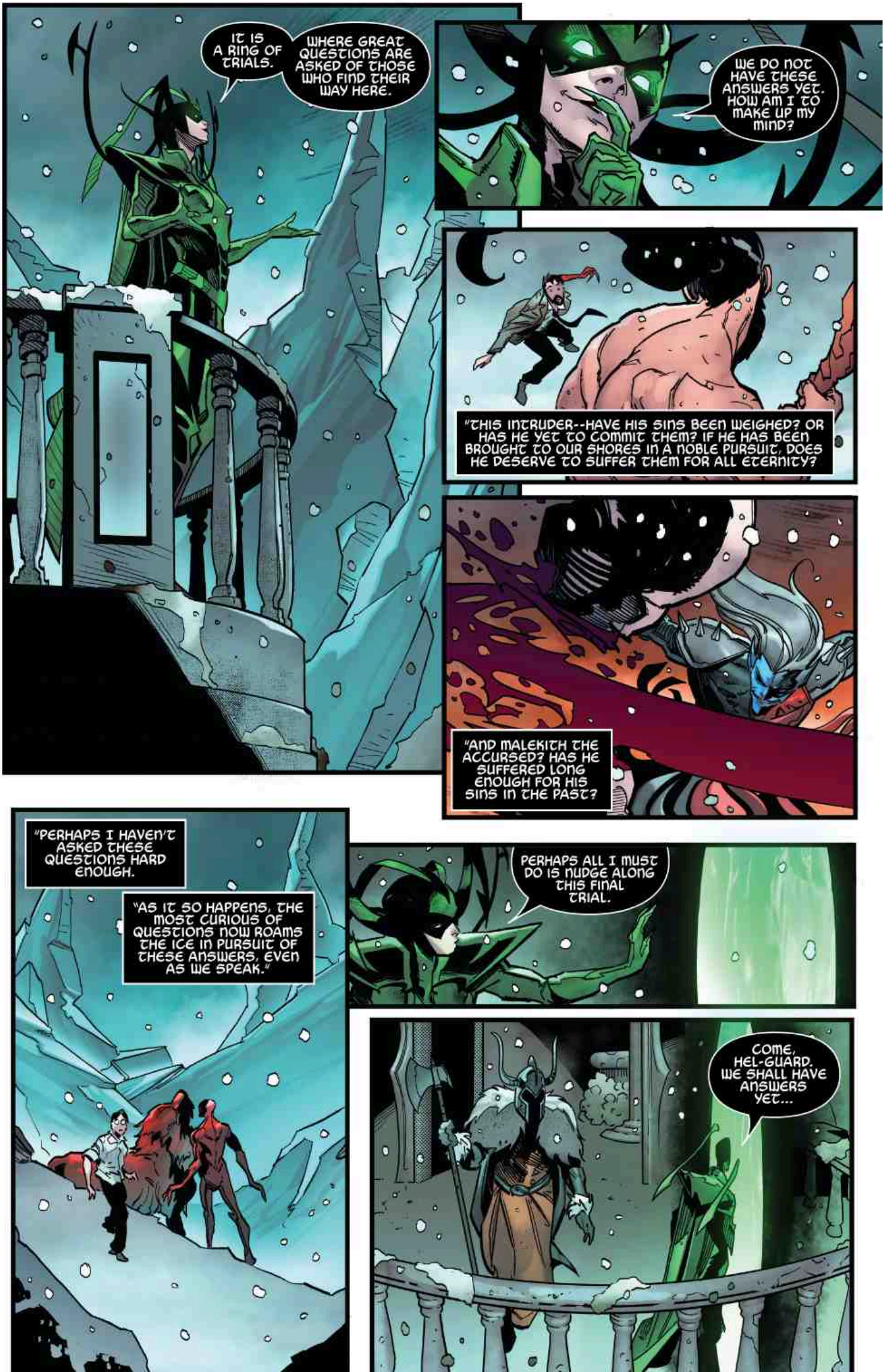
RAAAAAAAAARRRR!
YOU KNOW SOMETHING? I THINK I AM ACTUALLY QUITE OFFENDED.
NOT NOW, CLETUS!

THWOOOM
NOT ONLY DO YOU COMPLETELY IGNORE MY ADVICE AND NOT KILL MALEKITH...
...BUT NOW YOU'RE WORKING WITH HIM--SLAUGHTERING A BUNCH OF INNOCENT RIME GIANTS.
THEY LOOK INNOCENT TO YOU?
I MEAN...DON'T GET ME WRONG. I DO ENJOY A GOOD WANTON SLAUGHTERING, AND THEY ARE COMICALLY SOFT IN THE HEAD.
BUT DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE? DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

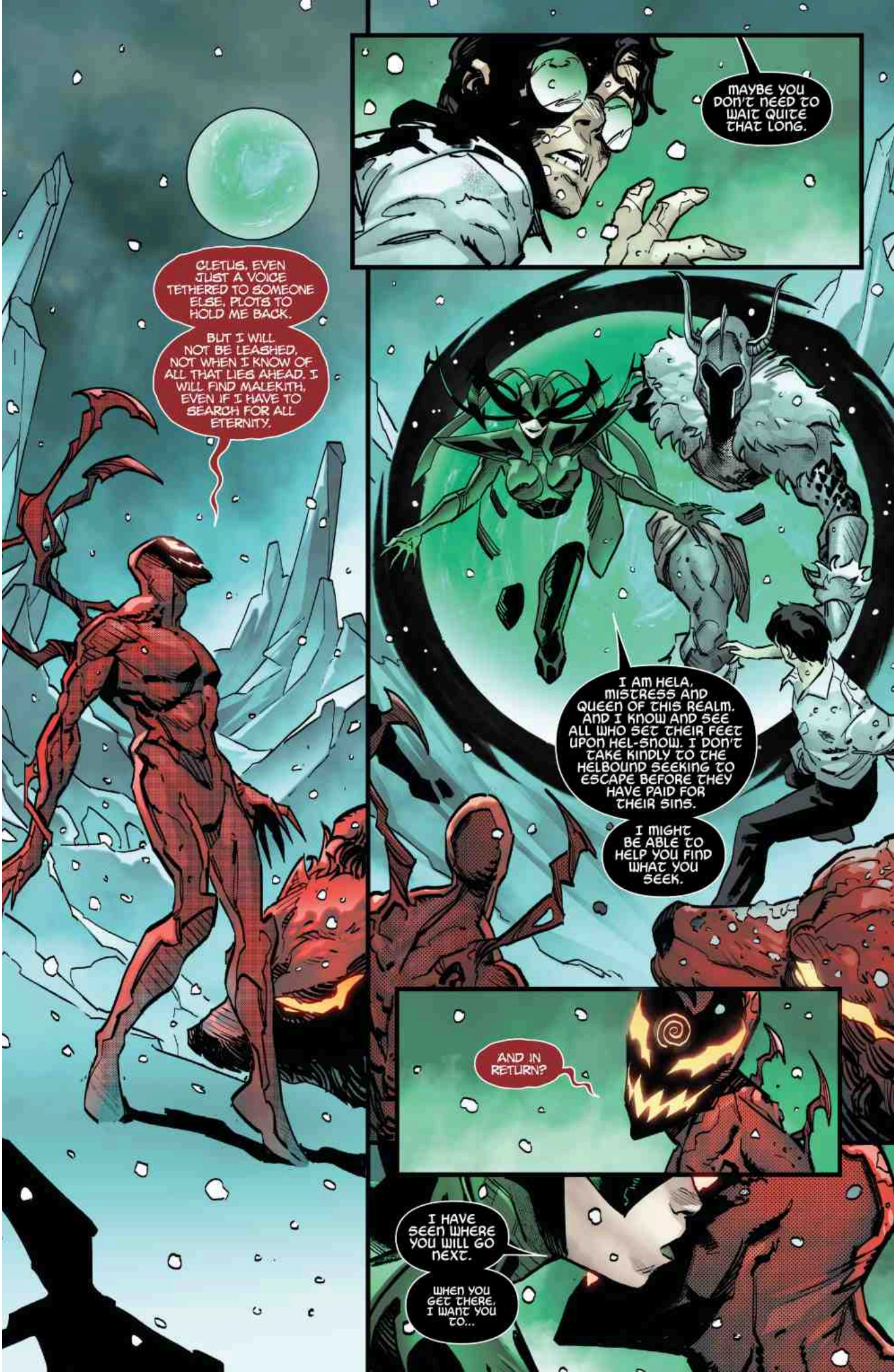
YAAAAGH!
WHY ARE WE DOING THIS AGAIN?
I TOLD YOU I KNEW HOW TO BREAK OUT OF HEL, DIDN'T I?
WELL...


HVERGELMIR, THE GREAT WELL.
...THAT'S HOW WE'LL GET OUT OF HERE.
HVERGELMIR IS THE WELL FROM WHICH ALL RIVERS FLOW. THINK OF A RIVER AS MORE OF A COSMIC WATERWAY.
INSIDE THAT FORTRESS, THE GIANTS HAVE A KEY.
A COSMIC RAFT, IF YOU WILL. WE GET OUR HANDS ON THAT, SHAYDE OF MIDGARD...WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE RIVERS MIGHT TAKE US.
SO YOU WON'T KILL ONE ELF TO SAVE US ALL FROM CARNAGE...
...BUT YOU'LL KILL A WHOLE BAND OF GIANTS ALONGSIDE HIM TO BUY A TICKET OUT OF HELL?
YOU SURPRISE ME. BUT THERE MIGHT BE HOPE FOR YOU YET, JON SHAYDE.
SHUT UP, CLETUS.
CARNAGE
IN HELL
PART TWO

MISTRESS HELA. MALEKITH AND AN INTRUDER HAVE ARRIVED AT THE WELL OF ALL-RIVERS, HVERGELMIR. THEY HAVE SLAUGHTERED THE GIANTS WHO KEEP THOSE WATERS.
IF THEY ACQUIRE THE HJORTSPRING...
THEN THEY WILL ROW OUT OF HERE AND INTO CHAOS AND CONSEQUENCE FOR THE WORLDS BEYOND.
AND YET I HAVE SAID THIS BEFORE, HAVE I NOT? IT IS NOT FOR ME TO KEEP THE HELBOUND IN HEL.
HEL IS NOT A PRISON.


IT IS A RING OF TRIALS.
WHERE GREAT QUESTIONS ARE ASKED OF THOSE WHO FIND THEIR WAY HERE.
WE DO NOT HAVE THESE ANSWERS YET. HOW AM I TO MAKE UP MY MIND?
"THIS INTRUDER--HAVE HIS SINS BEEN WEIGHED? OR HAS HE YET TO COMMIT THEM? IF HE HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO OUR SHORES IN A NOBLE PURSUIT, DOES HE DESERVE TO SUFFER THEM FOR ALL ETERNITY?
"AND MALEKITH THE ACCURSED? HAS HE SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH FOR HIS SINS IN THE PAST?
"PERHAPS I HAVEN'T ASKED THESE QUESTIONS HARD ENOUGH.
"AS IT SO HAPPENS, THE MOST CURIOUS OF QUESTIONS NOW ROAMS THE ICE IN PURSUIT OF THESE ANSWERS, EVEN AS WE SPEAK."
PERHAPS ALL I MUST DO IS NUDGE ALONG THIS FINAL TRIAL.
COME, HEL-GUARD. WE SHALL HAVE ANSWERS YET...

"...OR WE SHALL HAVE CARNAGE."
CLETUS... CLETUS, MY DEAR.
CLETUS, YOU TREACHEROUS #$%&#!
I DID NOT FORESEE YOUR INFLUENCE LINGERING YET IN MY FLESH, NOW WOVEN THROUGH JON SHAYDE'S BODY. YOU HAVE BETRAYED ME.
YOU HAVE BETRAYED US!
WE'RE LOST, AREN'T WE?
APPARENTLY, HELHOUNDS CAN'T SNIFF THEIR WAY THROUGH A BLIZZARD IN HEL. SO, YES, KENNETH...MY OBVIOUS LITTLE WHELP...WE ARE LOST.
SO THAT'S IT, THEN?
MALEKITH AND JON SHAYDE WILL ESCAPE TO SOMEPLACE WE CANNOT FOLLOW, AND WE'RE DEAD IN THE WATER?
WELL, KENNETH... IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO BACK TO CUTTING UP STRANGERS IN YOUR BASEMENT, I'LL GLADLY CAST YOU BACK INTO THAT PIT.
N-NO...I DIDN'T MEAN THAT.
YOU'RE BEGINNING TO SEE NOW, AREN'T YOU?
YOU UNDERSTAND WHY WE MUST KEEP GOING, THEN...BECAUSE YOU CAN SEE THERE'S NO GOING BACK.


CLETUS, EVEN JUST A VOICE TETHERED TO SOMEONE ELSE, PLOTS TO HOLD ME BACK.
BUT I WILL NOT BE LEASHED, NOT WHEN I KNOW OF ALL THAT LIES AHEAD. I WILL FIND MALEKITH, EVEN IF I HAVE TO SEARCH FOR ALL ETERNITY.
MAYBE YOU DON'T NEED TO WAIT QUITE THAT LONG.
I AM HELA, MISTRESS AND QUEEN OF THIS REALM. AND I KNOW AND SEE ALL WHO SET THEIR FEET UPON HEL-SNOW. I DON'T TAKE KINDLY TO THE HELBOUND SEEKING TO ESCAPE BEFORE THEY HAVE PAID FOR THEIR SINS.
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU FIND WHAT YOU SEEK.
AND IN RETURN?
I HAVE SEEN WHERE YOU WILL GO NEXT.
WHEN YOU GET THERE, I WANT YOU TO...

THE GIANTS ABODE, AT HVERGELMIR.
MALEKITH...
HE WON'T LISTEN.
MALEKITH!
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BREATH.
WE SHOULD FIND THAT KEY AND GET OUT OF HERE!
STOP! WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME!

I AM NOT DONE YET!
FOR AN ETERNITY, THEY TORTURED ME!
DAY AND NIGHT, OUT IN THE COLD. THEY BENT MY MIND AND BROKE MY BONES.
IF I KILL EVERY LAST DENIZEN OF HEL, IT WILL NOT BE ENOUGH!
I CAN'T LET YOU DO THIS. THIS WASN'T OUR DEAL.
OH, JON...AND YOU WERE DOING SO WELL UP UNTIL THIS MOMENT.
OH, WHAT IS THIS?
ARE YOU GROWING SOME KIND OF CONSCIENCE, SHAYDE? YOU KNEW FULLY WELL WHO I WAS WHEN YOU SET ME FREE.
NOW YOU REGRET IT?
FINE...I WILL SHOW YOU THE PAIN OF KEEPING REGRETS IN HEL, IF I MUST.

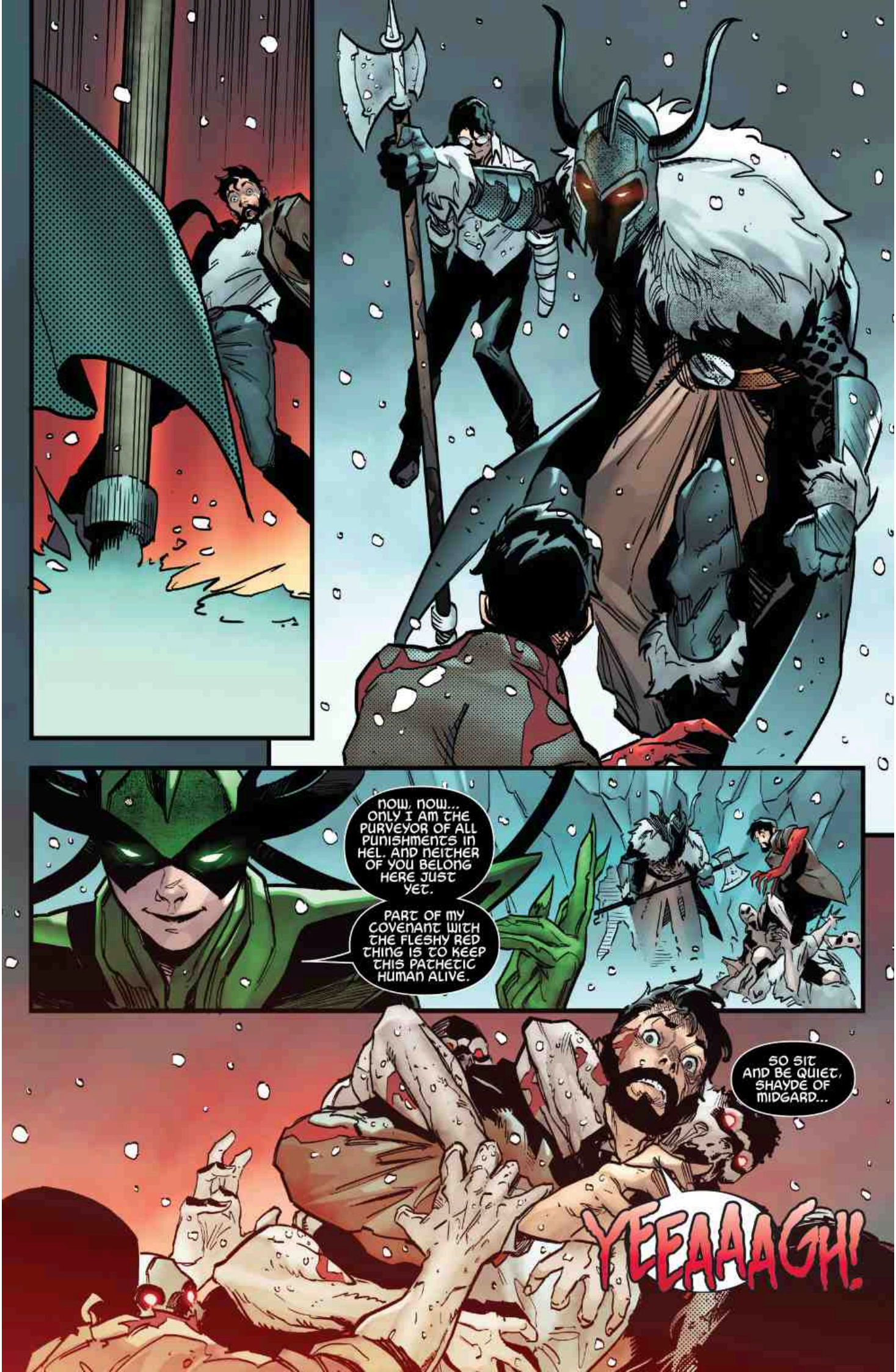
PAIN?
OH, ELF... I AM ABOUT TO SHOW YOU MEANINGS OF PAIN THAT YOU DID NOT KNOW EVEN EXISTED.
A FITTING PUNISHMENT FOR TRYING TO SNEAK OUT BEFORE YOUR TIME, DON'T YOU THINK, MALEKITH?

YOU...I HAVE ENCOUNTERED CREATURES LIKE YOU BEFORE.
THE LAST ONE, I USED AS AN INSTRUMENT OF MY WAR.
TRUE, I HAVE BEEN IN HEL FOR FAR TOO LONG AND IT HAS SAPPED MY STRENGTH, SOME.
BUT I HAVE FOUGHT GODS AND FELLED THEM. I HAVE FOUGHT HEROES AND SHOWN THEM DESPAIR.

I WILL NOT FALL HERE TO SOME CRAWLING LIFE-FORM WHO DRIFTED IN FROM SPACE. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU WANT WITH ME.
BUT YOU DO NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO KILL ME.

I KNOW I DO HAVE A BIT OF A HISTORY...BUT WHY DOES EVERYONE ASSUME I'M HERE TO KILL THEM?

NEELY!
GO ON, JON... CUT LOOSE FOR ONCE. EVISCERATE THE FOOL. PULL OUT HIS INNARDS.
HEH... J-JON SHAYDE, RIGHT?
YOU...YOU ARE THE REASON FOR ALL OF THIS.
YOU'RE THE REASON I AM IN HEL.
THIS...THIS IS KENNETH NEELY? THE MAN WHO WOULD TAKE MY PLACE?


NOW, NOW... ONLY I AM THE PURVEYOR OF ALL PUNISHMENTS IN HEL. AND NEITHER OF YOU BELONG HERE JUST YET.
PART OF MY COVENANT WITH THE FLESHY RED THING IS TO KEEP THIS PATHETIC HUMAN ALIVE.
SO SIT AND BE QUIET, SHAYDE OF MIDGARD...
YEEAAAGH!

...YOU'RE RUINING THE SHOW, AND I DO LOVE TO WATCH.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT CARNAGE IS TRYING TO DO?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE ALL THIS LEADS?
NO... BUT I HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHERE HE IS GOING.
"SOME IDEA OF WHAT HE IS ABOUT TO DO.
"AND BY THE GODS..."

"...I DO LOVE A GOOD APOCALYPSE."
I HAVE YOU NOW... A PIECE OF YOU.
BUT AN IMPORTANT PIECE...MY SWEETEST...
...VENOM.
TO BE CONTINUED...

CLETUS' Clubhouse

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SEND E-MAILS TO **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!)

AT LAST! CARNAGE HAS WHAT IT'S BEEN AFTER FOR MONTHS: A TINY PIECE OF VENOM!

But WHY?! And why from Malekith? And now that it has that tiny piece of Venom, what's Carnage's NEXT MOVE?! AND WHERE IS CLETUS KASADY AND WHAT IS HE UP TO?!

All of those questions will be answered VERY soon!

BUT BRACE YOURSELVES, READERS! Because most, if not ALL, of those answers will leave you with a pit in your stomach--as you'll realize Carnage's plans and ambitions will have advanced through the Marvel U like a poisonous snake through long grass.

By the time your favorite characters in the Marvel Universe realize the fates that are soon to befall them, there won't be anything they can do about it!

From CARNAGE U.S.A. to KING IN BLACK to EXTREME CARNAGE--the road the Carnage symbiote has walked has been long, bloody and brutal. And there are still MILES to go.

In the meantime, we want to hear from you! In every issue of this series, we've put out the call for letters on the next-issue page and you symbiote readers out there in Mighty Marveldom have answered with GUSTO!

Let's see what those of you in the Marvel Masses who are brave or foolish enough to read this scintillatingly scary series have to say about it...

I gotta say, this current run on CARNAGE is bloody fantastic, please let this team of V and Manna keep making this book as long as they keep pumping out this gruesome content, please and thank you.

I am loving the dual narratives!

--Mason G.

Thanks for reading and for writing, Mason. We're so glad you're enjoying the story so far. CARNAGE is definitely not for the squeamish, but Ram, Francesco, Rogê and Erick are all HUGELY talented storytellers and LOVE super heroes and super villains.

Ram V,

Marvel has a long history of banging their head against the wall, doing series after series for characters who probably never should've had their own series! Nova, Moon Knight, Ghost Rider, She-Hulk, etc. Carnage may be the worst offender however; he's a cheap Spider-Man knockoff—they're even the same color--and added to that, he's a cheap Venom knockoff. What gets me is, Carnage is still a psychopathic killer! Not very super-heroic, is it? The look of Carnage, the powers, the killing: None of it works for me, even as a villain! So what are you guys even doing? Even so--I appreciate the appearance by the Spot! Yes, he got mangled into a million pieces--in an issue not even labeled Parental Advisory--but I do like the Spot. I wouldn't waste too much manpower on Carnage's series, if I were you guys. Maybe, just maybe, Carnage could be Venom's archenemy? As a villain?

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

Thanks for your note, Andrew. I love conking my noggin against the wall as much as anyone (just ask the folks who used to have an office next door to mine. YUKYUKYUK!)--but I PROMISE, there's a plan here, and this issue is the first real payoff in that plan. We, and the Carnage symbiote, certainly haven't forgotten about VENOM!

And WAITASEC!

...You don't like SHE-HULK?! Or MOON KNIGHT?! GHOST RIDER?!

Dear CARNAGE team,

I just finished issue #3 of CARNAGE, and I have to say that so far, this is the most interesting Carnage story I have ever read.

I knew that one day someone would come along and write a Carnage story that truly shows that this character isn't just the one-sided murderous savage that he's always been portrayed as and show us that he is the many-layered murderous savage that we all knew he could be.

So props to Ram V, Francesco Manna and Rogê Antônio. Thank you, good sirs, and godspeed, brave soldiers. I hope Carnage leaves you unscathed.

--Robert E.

Hey, Spidey Office!

Loving the new CARNAGE run. Carnage has long been my favorite Spider-Man villain and I'm happy to see him getting his own series (feels like people only ever show Venom the love!).

I did have one question; why do these Carnage issues not have a legacy numbering? Past Carnage runs had legacy numbers, so I wonder why the omission on these?

Thanks!
--DA

GOOD QUESTION, DA! We actually have some tricks up our sleeves regarding legacy numbering that we're hoping to share with you real soon. We think you'll dig it!

Dear CARNAGE Staff,

Okay, evolution, eh? An interesting angle for this volume. Parsing the methodology behind Carnage's madness has become one of my new favorite pastimes. A few guesses as to what each absorption might mean for the Red Menace:

Hydro-Man=fluidity, capable of great adaptation. The symbiotes have been flexible before, but never on such a scale. Bruce Lee recommended that a good fighter must "be water," and boy, Carnage is taking that to a whole new level.

Spot=teleportation, capable of going anywhere. A useful skill, I suppose, augmenting the red one's tendency to attack from unexpected places and traverse terrain like nobody's business. It's basically an enhancement of one of his core attributes, a good pick.

Artist=dissection, capable of breaking someone into distinct components and uncovering what makes them tick. A bit weird for Carnage, someone well-known for being indiscriminate in his killing sprees and not really being the scheming mastermind archetype, but who's to say he doesn't have something more going on this time around? The ability to identify your opponents' best qualities, then separating them from those qualities and incorporating them into yourself is an unparalleled asset. Mega Man's been doing that for decades, and the only thing he's been doing wrong is dumping all his new powers every time a new game is released. Here's hoping Carnage keeps a lock on his acquired abilities!

I'm not sure what Carnage's master plan might be, but the components he's introduced thus far are fascinating enough. Let's see how far down this rabbit hole goes...

Sincerely,
Ben K.

GREAT LETTER, BEN! You're starting to put the puzzle pieces together and you are SO CLOSE! We can't confirm or deny too much without giving away some of the biggest surprises yet in store, but keep your eyes peeled. Some of the answers you're looking for are right around the corner.

All right, that's all the space for this one! Be here next month for CARNAGE #8. Check out its cover below! Hey...is that a spiral I see?

Wonder what that's about?

STAY SHARP!
Devin
8.31.22

NEXT: ISSUE #8

ON SALE IN NOVEMBER

ZONE